

What is claimed is:

1. A printing apparatus comprising:

5 a print head having a plurality of nozzles for ejecting ink to form dots, wherein said print head has a first nozzle row for ejecting ink having color material and a second nozzle row for ejecting ink not having color material;

10 wherein a number per unit area of droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second nozzle row, is less than a number per unit area of droplets of said ink having color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row.

2. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

15 a number of said droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second nozzle row, per unit length in a main scanning direction is less than a number of said droplets of said ink having color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row, per unit length in the main scanning  
20 direction.

3. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

25 a number of said droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second nozzle row, per unit length in a sub-scanning direction is less than a number of said droplets of said ink having color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row, per unit length in the sub-scanning direction.

30 4. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

a number of nozzles making up said second nozzle row is less than a number of nozzles making up said first nozzle row.

5. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

5 the nozzles making up said first and said second nozzle rows are arranged with a predetermined spacing between adjacent nozzles; and

scanning is carried out by partially overlapping scanning paths of said print head such that a gap created due to said spacing  
10 is filled in.

6. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said ink having color material is a pigment-based ink; and  
said ink not having color material includes a component for  
15 increasing a degree of luster.

7. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

dots of said ink not having color material are formed at an area where a density of dots of said ink having color material  
20 is low in accordance with that density.

8. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said ink not having color material includes a component for preventing bleeding of said ink having color material; and  
25 dots of said ink not having color material are formed at an area where a density of dots of said ink having color material is high in accordance with that density.

9. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

30 a nozzle group making up said first nozzle row and a nozzle

group making up said second nozzle row are arranged such that they are misaligned in a sub-scanning direction by a fixed distance.

10. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

5 a nozzle group making up said first nozzle row and a nozzle group making up said second nozzle row are arranged such that they are in a same position in a sub-scanning direction.

11. A printing method employing a print head having a plurality  
10 of nozzles for ejecting ink to form dots, said print head having a first nozzle row for ejecting ink having color material and a second nozzle row for ejecting ink not having color material, said method comprising:

a step of discharging droplets of said ink having color  
15 material using said first nozzle row; and

a step of discharging droplets of said ink not having color material using said second nozzle row;

wherein a number per unit area of said droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second  
20 nozzle row, is less than a number per unit area of said droplets of said ink having color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row.

12. A print head having a plurality of nozzles for ejecting ink  
25 to form dots, comprising:

a first nozzle row for ejecting ink having color material;  
and

a second nozzle row for ejecting ink not having color material;

30 wherein a number of nozzles making up said second nozzle

row is less than a number of nozzles making up said first nozzle row.

13. A printing method for performing printing on a medium,  
5 comprising:

a step of discharging droplets of ink having color material to a medium at a predetermined resolution; and

a step of discharging droplets of ink not having color material to the medium at a resolution that is different from said  
10 predetermined resolution.

14. A printing method according to claim 13, wherein

said droplets of said ink not having color material are discharged to the medium at a resolution that is lower than said  
15 predetermined resolution.

15. A printing apparatus comprising

a print head for ejecting ink to form dots, wherein said print head includes:

20 a first nozzle row for discharging droplets of ink having color material to a medium at a predetermined resolution; and

a second nozzle row for discharging droplets of ink not having color material to the medium at a resolution that is different from said predetermined resolution.

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16. A printing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein

said second nozzle row discharges said droplets of said ink not having color material to the medium at a resolution that is lower than said predetermined resolution.